

ST NEOTS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT:

for the year ended 31st December, 1963.

Mr Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the District for the year, 1963.

As can be seen from the appropriate tables, the Vital Statistics reflect very favourably indeed on the District as a whole.

The increase in population, evident in recent years, continued during 1963 and approximately 700 inhabitants were added to the town. The Birth Rate has risen rapidly and is now higher than it has ever been before and the Death Rate, despite the rising population shows a downward trend compared with last year's figure and is well below the level for England and Wales as a whole.

The need for improved Maternity facilities increases with the rise in population and the provision of more hospital beds for this purpose is most urgent.

Two cases of Paratyphoid Fever occurred in the town during the second quarter of the year and steps were quickly taken to isolate the patients and supervise the contacts till the fear of spread of the infection was over. These cases were part of an outbreak in a neighbouring district attributable to the use of an imported egg product used extensively in the catering industry.

In 1963, about 140 houses were built within the district to keep in step with the industries that had transferred to the town and this expansion also met the needs of the local commercial and industrial firms.

During the year the water supply to the town met requirements but did not permit the use of hose pipes for watering gardens or washing private cars. The future supply, however, is assessed by the Council's participation in the Brampton intake scheme and reservations on the

ANNUAL REPORT (Cont'd)

Grafham water project.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal requirements are being planned in stages to deal with the increased expansion within the Town and to keep in step with the demands of the district.

In conclusion, I should like to thank members of the Council for their kindness and consideration to me during the past year and all Officers for their kind help and co-operation.

I am.

Your obedient Servant,

J.CALDWELL.

Medical Officer of Health.

S T A F F

Medical Officer of Health:

J.CALDWELL. LRCP&S (ED) ., LRFP&S (GL)
D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector:

R.A.OSTLER. Cert SIB., MAPHI.

Meat Inspector Assistants (Authorised)

J.Taylor (from 1.4.63 to 3.8.63)

R.Anderson (appointed 2.9.63)

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St Neots Urban District.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area: 1,391 acres	St Neots 996 acres	Eynesbury 395 acres
Estimated population	Mid: 1962 5,990	Mid: 1963 6,680

Private Houses	1,973
Shops etc with private houses attached ...	70

Rateable Value:

As at 31st December, 1963:	£369
Product of a penny rate :	

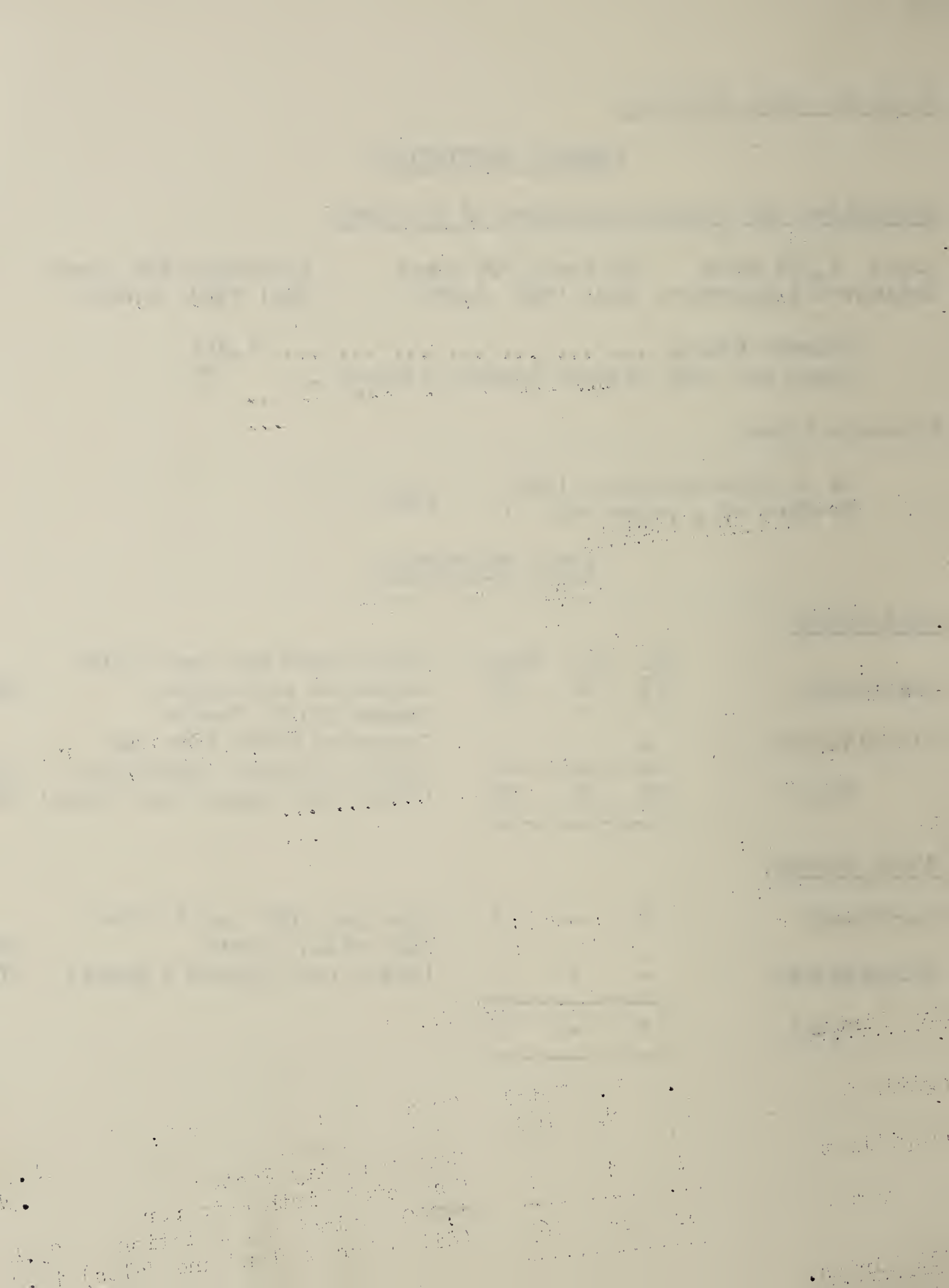
VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births

	M.	F.	Total	Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	
Legitimate	76	84	160		24.9
				Comparability Factor	.94
Illegitimate	4	1	5	Corrected Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	23.4
Total	80	85	165	(ditto for England and Wales)	18.2

Still Births.

Legitimate	2	-	2	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births	12.0
Illegitimate	-	-	-	(ditto for England & Wales)	17.3
Total	2	-	2		



Deaths.

	M.	F.	Total	Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	
All ages	32	28	60		9.0
				Comparability Factor	1.0
				Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	9.0
				(ditto for England and Wales)	12.2

The following table indicates the trends in the Birth and Death Rates for the District over the past five years and compares them with those for the County of Huntingdon and for England and Wales.

	Birth Rate					Death Rate				
	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
St Neots U.D.C.	18.7	17.8	17.3	20.2	23.4	9.4	10.5	8.2	9.7	9.0
County of Huntingdon.	19.6	19.7	20.6	21.6	20.1	10.1	10.6	10.1	10.4	11.3
England & Wales	16.5	17.1	17.4	18.0	18.2	11.6	11.5	12.0	11.9	12.2

Deaths of Infants under 1 year.

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	2	1	3

Death Rates of Infants under 1 year.

All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	18.2
(Ditto for England and Wales)	...	...	...	20.9

ST NEOTS URBAN DISTRICT.

CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Total cases
Notified.

Scarlet Fever	.....	1
Whooping Cough	.....	-
Diphtheria	.....	-
Measles	.....	39
Acute Pneumonia	.....	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	.....	-
Typhoid Fever	.....	-
Paratyphoid Fever	.....	2
Erysipelas	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	-
Infective Hepatitis	-
Food Poisoning	-
Dysentery	1
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	Total	47
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ST NEOTS URBAN DISTRICT.

Causes of Death,

(Registrar General's List)

<u>Cause</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	-
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	-
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	2	4
Diabetes	-	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	1	5
Coronary disease, angina	6	3
Other heart disease.	3	2
Other circulatory disease	2	1
Pneumonia	2	2
Bronchitis	2	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	5
All other accidents.	4	1
Suicide	1	1
Total all causes.	32	28

ST NEOTS URBAN DISTRICT.

TUBERCULOSIS

Total number on Register at 31st December, 1963 18

Pulmonary 16 Non-pulmonary 2

New Cases - Diagnosed

New Cases - Transfers

Age Period	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0								
1								
5								
10	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
15								
20								
25	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
35	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards								
Totals	2	-	-	-	1	1	1	-

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952, in connection with persons suffering from tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

RESEARCH REPORT NO. 1000

BY J. H. HARRIS

CHICAGO, ILL.

1955

Submitted by

Dr. J. H. HARRIS

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ST NEOTS URBAN DISTRICT

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

The following Laboratory facilities have been available to this Authority and to General Practitioners in this area:

Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge.
Tel: Cambridge 55526

Public Analyst (S.Greenburgh, Ph.D., B.Sc., T.I.C.)
Tennison Road. Cambridge. Tel: Cambridge 2097

(b) Ambulance Service.

Ambulances administered by the County Ambulance Service operating in conjunction with the County Fire Service, have been available on Doctor's orders. Tel: Huntingdon 348.

(c) Home Nursing.

Two Nurse/Midwives living in St Neots (Tel: St Neots 215 and St Neots 725) employed and supervised by the Huntingdon County Council, carried out Home Nursing and attended Maternity Cases in the District.

(d) Clinic and Treatment Centres.

(i) The following Health Services were provided by the Huntingdon County Council:

<u>Clinic</u>	<u>Patients seen</u>	<u>When held</u>	<u>Where held.</u>
Minor Ailments	Schoolchildren	1st Thursday in month 10.30-11.30 a.m.	The Clinic, Almond Road. St Neots.
Infant Welfare	Children (0 - 5 years)	Every Thursday 2 - 4 p.m.	-ditto-
Dental	Pre-school and schoolchildren	Every Thursday and Tuesday 9 - 12 noon	
	Pre-natal and Nursing Mothers	1.30 - 4.30 p.m.	-ditto-

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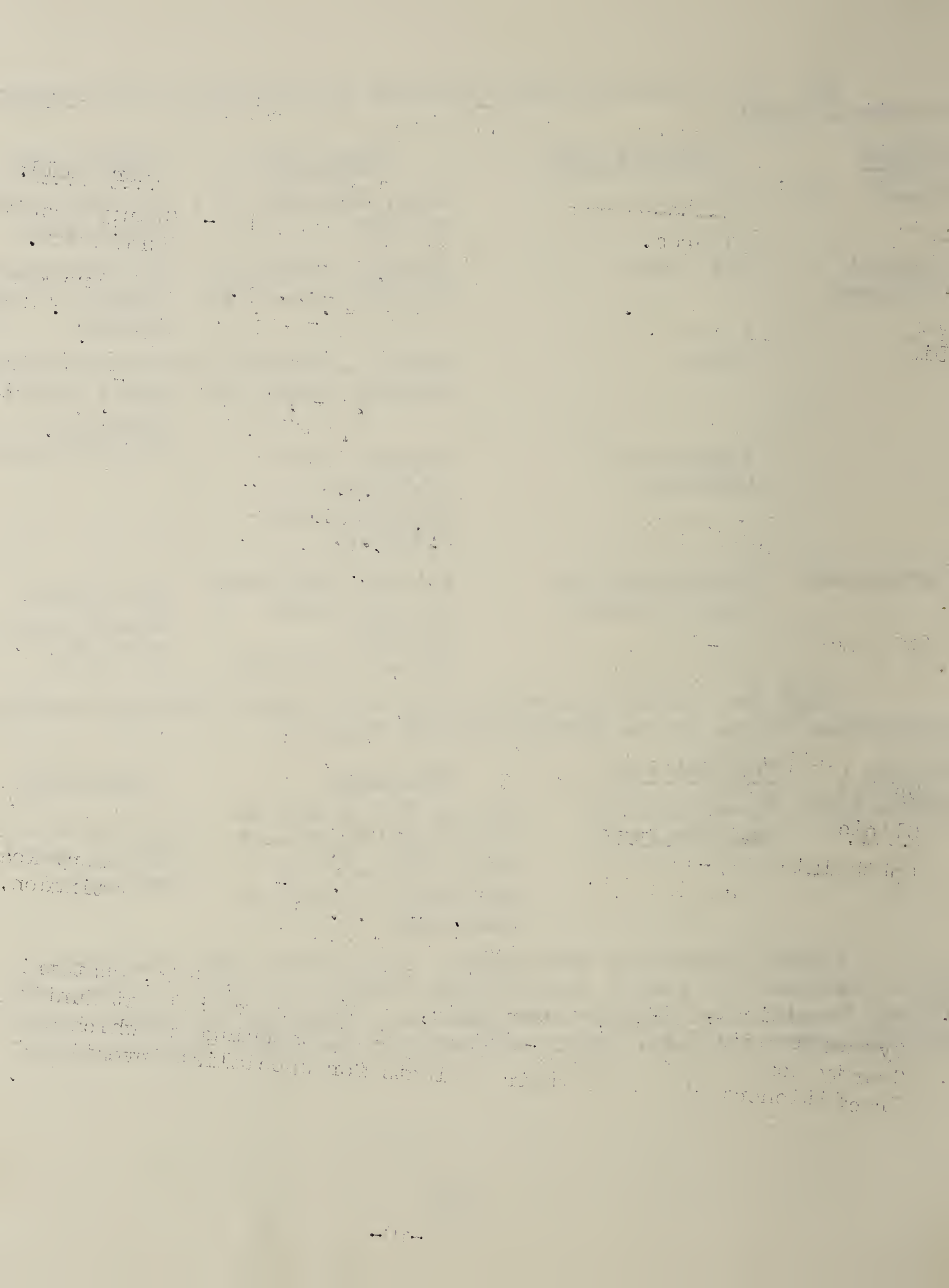
(ii) The following Health Services are provided by the Regional Hospital Board:

<u>Clinic</u>	<u>Patients seen</u>	<u>When seen</u>	<u>Where held.</u>
Chest	All ages.	Every Thursday 10 - 12 noon.	County Hospital Huntingdon.
Veneral Diseases	All cases.	Tuesday 3-6.30 p.m. Thursday 4-6.30 p.m.	Addenbrookes Hospital. Cambridge.
	Males	Monday 4.30-6.30 p.m. Tuesday 5.30-7 p.m.	Out-Patients Dept. Memorial Hospital. Peterborough.
	Females and Children	Tuesday 10.30 - 12.30 p.m. Thursday 4.30 - 6.30 p.m.	
Orthopaedic	Pre-School and Schoolchildren	1st and 3rd Monday in each month (Sister) 10 a.m - 12 noon	The Clinic. Almond Road. St Neots.

(iii) The following service is provided under the Supplementary Ophthalmic Scheme of the National Health Service:

<u>Clinic</u>	<u>Patients seen</u>	<u>When seen</u>	<u>Where held.</u>
Ophthalmic	Pre-school and Schoolchildren	1st and 3rd Friday in each month 10.30 - 12 noon. 2-3 p.m. (by appointment except in emergency)	New Health Clinic Nursery Road. Huntingdon.

Medical, Surgical, Orthopaedic, Paediatric, Skin, Obstetrical, Gynaecological and Dental out-patients clinics are held at Huntingdon County Hospital and Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge to which General Practitioners can refer their patients for specialist investigation.



(e) Hospital Services.

Fever: Cases of Infectious Diseases requiring hospital treatment were admitted to Isolation Hospitals at Cambridge, Peterborough and Ely.

General Hospital Services: were provided by the County Hospital Huntingdon and Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge.

Maternity Cases were admitted to Primrose Lane Maternity Hospital, Huntingdon and to Mill Road Maternity Hospital, Cambridge.

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ST NEOTS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report of the Public Health Inspector for 1963

To the Medical Officer of Health,

Sir,

I have pleasure in submitting an Annual Report for 1963 for inclusion with your own.

The wisdom of appointing a full-time meat inspector in April became apparent later in the year, when the new Meat Inspection Regulations came into force, requiring an exacting standard of examination. Fortunately the through-put of the abattoir is such that it is just within the capacity of one officer to attain this and to maintain 100% inspection, with only occasional help during absence.

After this appointment it became possible for the first time to give adequate attention to other public health duties. Among those urgently required was the inspection of food premises in the town, a detailed report on which is included.

The Slum Clearance programme was continued with the representation of two further Clearance Areas, containing twenty-two houses.

May I express my appreciation of the support I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Council, and to you and other Officers of the Council for their help and assistance.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

R. A. Ostler

R.A. OSTLER.

Public Health Inspector

Dear Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst.

and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours faithfully,
[Signature]

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours faithfully,
[Signature]

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours faithfully,
[Signature]

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours faithfully,
[Signature]

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours faithfully,
[Signature]

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

Visits and Inspections made during 1963.

Public Health Act.

Houses inspected for nuisances (including revisits)	...	114
Verminous premises and revisits	...	2
Infectious disease inquiries.	...	1
Tents, vans, sheds and moveable dwellings	...	13
Atmospheric Pollution	...	30
Streams and Watercourses	...	-
Keeping of animals	...	4
Offensive Trades	...	1
Water supply - including sampling	...	13
Public Conveniences.	...	5
Licensed Premises	...	2
Schools	...	1
Drainage	...	55
Swimming Pool	...	10
Insect Pests - destruction	...	17

Housing Act.

Houses inspected - including revisits.	...	107
Miscellaneous Housing visits	...	64
Overcrowding	...	4

Rent Act.

Inspections and revisits.	...	-
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Factory Act.

Factories and workplaces inspected.	...	22
Outworkers premises visited.	...	12

Carried forward		<u>477</u>
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Food and Drugs Act.

Brought forward	...	477
Bakehouses	...	12
Bakers and Confectioners	...	3
Grocers	...	42
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	2
Fishmongers and Poulterers	...	4
Fried Fish Shops	...	2
Food Preparing Premises	...	12
Licensed Premises and Hotels	...	31
Markets and Stalls	...	82
Ice Cream Premises	...	21
Restaurant and Cafes	...	24
Dairies - including sampling visits	...	11
Butchers	...	30
Canteens - Schools	...	3
Works	...	19
Miscellaneous Food Inspection	...	26
Ice Cream Samples	...	23
Milk Samples	...	13
Meat Inspections - Visits to Abattoir	...	410
Street Vendors	...	24

Miscellaneous.

Pet Animals Act.	...	3
Noise Abatement	...	3
Rodent Control	...	62
Shops Act.	...	32
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	...	51
Interviews.		43

Total visits and inspections made: 1,465

Notices served and complied with, 1963

<u>Type of Notice.</u>	<u>In force</u>	<u>Served 1963</u>	<u>Still Outstanding</u>
Public Health Act - informal	6	43	15
formal	-	4	-
Housing Act - informal	-	7	2
formal	-	8	-
Factories Act - informal	-	-	-
Food and Drugs Act - informal	4	86	32
formal	-	-	-
Noise Abatement Act - informal	-	-	-
Clean Air Act - informal	-	2	-
formal	-	1	-

Rent Act.

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair - nil

Applications for cancellation of Certificates - nil.

Legal Proceedings.

1. A successful prosecution was undertaken for failure to comply with a statutory notice under the nuisance provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936. An abatement order was made by the Court and the nuisance has not been repeated.
2. In respect of two offences under the Food and Drugs Act for extraneous matter in food (glass in fruit pie, and a wire spiral in a turnover) the Council resolved to give warnings only.

LICENCES ISSUED.

Caravan Sites etc Act. 1960

Caravan Sites	1
Individual sites	Nil

Slaughter of Animals Act.

Slaughtering Licences	7
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Slaughterhouses Act, 1958

Private Abattoir	1
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Game Act, 1931

Game Dealers	5
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<u>Pet Animals Act, 1951</u>	2
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Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Registrations for storage and sale of ice cream etc to date.	35
Registrations as distributors of milk, to date.	2

INFORMAL FOOD - SAMPLES.

The following samples were taken during the year and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Cambridge:

Ice Cream.

Grade 1 - Satisfactory	....	24 samples.
Grade 2 - Satisfactory	....	1 sample.
Grade 3) - Unsatisfactory	....	Nil
Grade 4)		

Water Ice.

10 samples were taken, all being satisfactory.

Milk

22 samples of milk were taken from 2 dealers in the town and all were found to be satisfactory.

One bad sample was taken from a refrigerated counter dispenser in a restaurant. On investigation, it was found that the machine was not being properly dismantled during cleansing. After advice had been given, further samples taken have all passed the test.

Water.

A total of 18 water samples were taken as follows:

From Town mains	.....	8	.....	satisfactory.
From Swimming Pool	....	8	.....	satisfactory.
From shallow well	.....	1	.....	satisfactory.
From river at point used by bathers	1	unsafe - heavy bacterial contamination.

Appendix - continued

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MEAT INSPECTION

There is one private abattoir in this district, originally licensed in 1960. During the year it was decided to oppose renewal of licence in face of continued deterioration and other contraventions of the Regulations.

I am glad to report that as a result of this action, the necessary works were carried out and the licence renewed. Among improvements required and achieved were adequate ventilation of the slaughterhall, and measures to prevent the slaughter of animals in the sight of others.

An extension was constructed to provide more space for meat cutting and for a staff canteen.

Meat Inspection Regulations.

An Inspector is in attendance during all but a short period of slaughtering hours and 100% inspection has been continued and modified to comply with the new requirements. All carcasses are marked with the stamp shown.

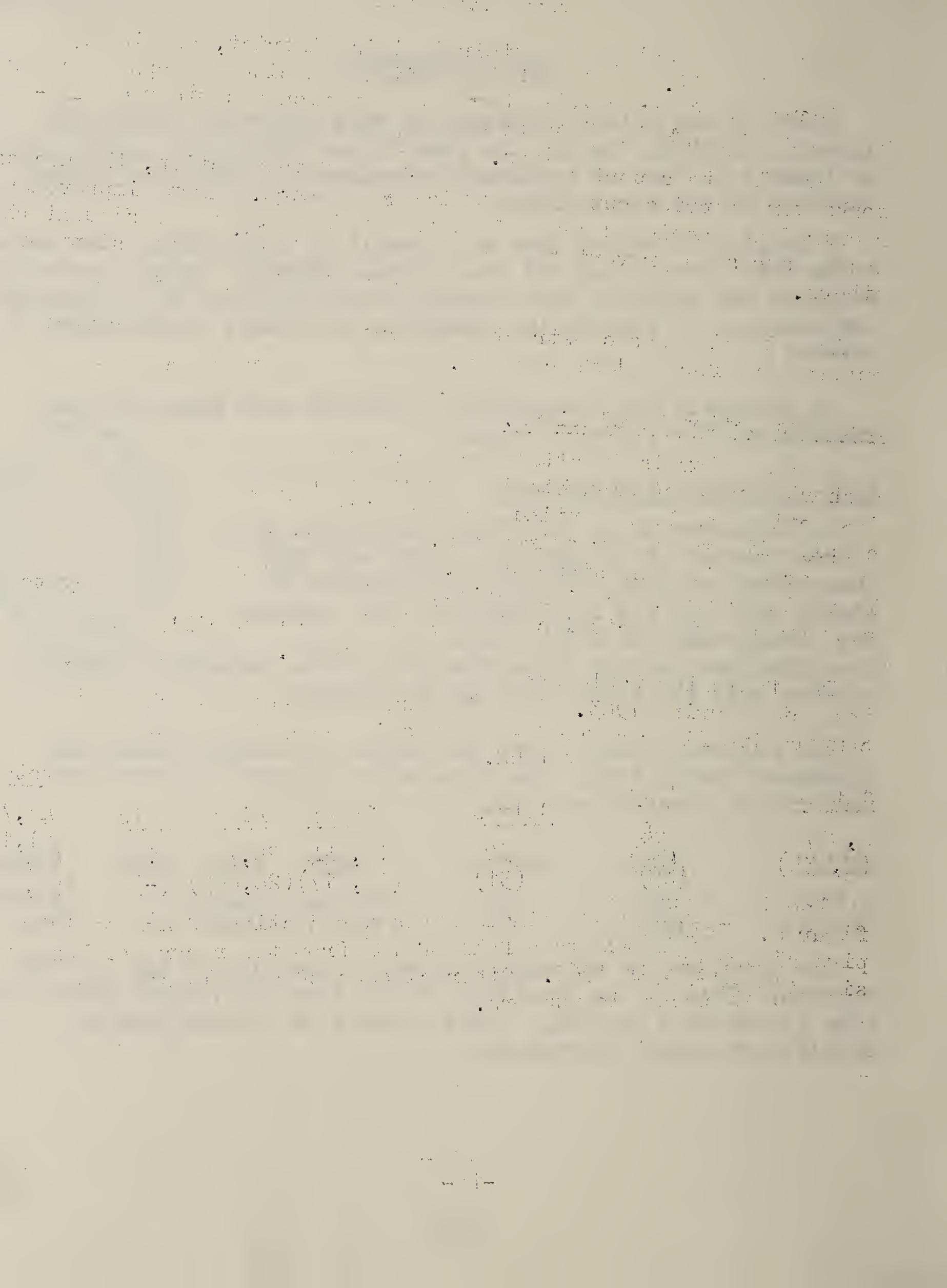
In making charges for inspection, it is the Council's policy to recover only the actual cost of the service.



The following table shows the number of animals killed and inspected during 1963. The figures in brackets indicate the comparative figures for 1962.

<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Goats</u>	<u>Total</u>
2,967 (2,935)	54 (25)	32 (31)	19,944 (19,517)	25,785 (28,665)	1 (-)	48,783 (51,173)

The total number of animals shows a reduction of $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ on 1962 figures. This is due to a fall of 10% from the record number of pigs slaughtered in 1962. Other classes of animals show no significant change in numbers.



Animals affected by disease or injury and condemnations.

<u>Tuberculosis only</u>	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>
Whole carcase.	-	-	-	-	-
Part or organ	-	-	-	-	127
Percentage affected	-	-	-	-	0.5%

Other diseases and causes

Whole carcase	3	7	6	3	45
Part or organ	608	29	-	665	3,481
Percentage affected	20.5%	67%	19%	3.3%	7.2%

Cysticercosis.

Part or organ condemned	24	- not applicable-			
Carcases to Cold Store	4				
Generalised	-				

This year no cases of swine fever or other notifiable diseases were found at the abattoir.

WEIGHTS OF MEAT CONDEMNATIONS.

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwt</u>	<u>Qr.</u>	<u>Lb.</u>
Offal	7	6	1	27
Beef	2	4	-	3
Veal	-	2	-	25
Mutton	-	1	4	13
Pork	4	-	3	24
	<u>13</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>

Other unsound foods surrendered for disposal:

27 lbs dessicated coconut	7 drums self-raising powder
37 lbs pearl barley	2 bottles sauce
37 lbs imported ham	<u>Canned goods (No of tins)</u>
12 lbs corned beef	Fruit (437) Vegetables (173)
One side frozen beef,	Cream (58) Fish (38) Meat (38)
4 lbs pork luncheon meat.	Milk (15) Soup (8) Puddings (3)
8 lbs chopped pork	Jam (2)

In addition, 657 packets of icecream and lollies and 106 packets of frozen foods were accepted for disposal owing to refrigeration failure.

INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES.

Following inspections of all types of food premises under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, forty-nine written and twenty-eight verbal notices were given in respect of contraventions. In most cases, proprietors were very co-operative and no further action has yet been found necessary.

A considerable problem was given by itinerant food vendors in the Market Square, and far stricter powers of control are necessary than those now available. Proceedings against one of these vendors was under consideration at the end of the year.

The following is a summary of faults found and action taken for compliance:-

<u>Reg. No.</u>	<u>No of cases where notice given</u>	<u>Complied with by 31.12.63</u>
6. Poor cleanliness of equipment	2	2
6. Equipment in poor repair	8	5
8. Food not protected from contamination.	2	2
9. Smoking by food-handlers	5	-
9. Lack of personal cleanliness	2	2
12. Open drain inlet in foodroom	1	-
14. W.C.s adjoining foodrooms	2	-
14. W.C.s in disrepair	16	10
15. W.C.s not kept clean or needing decoration	21	13
16. Inadequate water supply	3	2
16. Absence of soap, towel, nailbrush	5	4
16. Absence of washbasin	3	3
16. Absence of hot water for washing	4	3
18. No accommodation for outdoor clothing.	1	1
19. Absence of sink	5	3
19. Absence of hot water for cleansing	5	4
19. Sink in disrepair	3	1
20. Inadequate lighting	2	-
21. Inadequate ventilation	11	6
23. Lack of cleanliness in food room	8	7
23. Walls, floors, ceilings in disrepair	25	15

No of cases where
notice given

Complied with
by 31.12.63

23. Walls and ceilings needing
decoration

19

10

23. Defective windows

2

1

23. Lack of proofing against vermin

5

2

23. Miscellaneous defects.

10

4

Stalls and Vehicles.

No of cases where
notice given

Complied with
by 31.12.63

Reg. No

26. Failure to display name and
address

17

12

26. Dirty conditions of stall etc

2

-

26. Inadequate lighting

1

-

27. Stall inadequately screened

1

-

28. Absence of hot water

3

2

FOOD PREMISES.

Sweets and Confectionary	...	4
General Stores	...	30
Fishmongers	...	2
Dairies	...	2
Butchers	...	10
Bakeries	...	4
Hotels	...	5
Restaurants	...	7
Fish Friers	...	1
Mobile Fish Frier's Premises	...	1
Public Houses	...	33
Greengrocers	...	6
Ice Cream Premises	...	28
Pie Manufacturers	....	1
Malsters	...	1
Flour Mill	...	1

Factories.

With Mechanical Power	...	53
Work Places.	...	9

Outworkers.

22 Persons of which 12 were visited, were engaged in the assembly of plastic toys in their own homes.

Rodent Control

The following include visits made by both the Public Health Inspector and Rodent Operative.

	<u>Local</u> <u>Authority</u>	<u>Dwelling</u> <u>Houses</u>	<u>Business</u> <u>& others.</u>	<u>Agricul-</u> <u>tural</u>	<u>Total</u>
Inspections and re-inspections	27	202	139	8	376
Major rat infestations	-	-	-	-	-
Minor rat infestations	12	62	18	8	100
Mice infestations	2	7	7	-	16
Informal notices served (Sec. 4)	-	2	4	-	6

Sewer Treatment

75 manholes in Eynesbury Parish were baited for rats, but no takes of bait were reported at any point.

Insect Pests.

By use of a modern insecticide, two heavy cockroach infestations of long standing were dealt with, the results being very satisfactory. Some twelve wasp's nests were destroyed during the year.

